

Agenda Item No.:	D
Work Plan:	State Forests Work Plan
Topic:	State Forests Recreation Administrative Rule Revision
Presentation Title:	State Forests Recreation Rulemaking
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## **CONTEXT**

The purpose of this agenda item is to present the Board of Forestry with the proposed draft Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) found in Division 25 and to initiate the formal rulemaking process. State Forests are managed for multiple purposes including public recreation opportunities for which demands have increased over time. There is a need to revise recreation-related administrative rules found in Division 25 to address increased use, changes in use, and other recreation issues. Additionally, the Department was directed by House Bill 2453, the rave bill, to develop health and safety standards and fees associated with large commercial events.

## **BACKGROUND**

### *Forest Recreation*

Division 25 was last updated in 2005, and since then, demands on recreation facilities have increased dramatically, as have the types of public recreation on State Forest lands. This has resulted in a need to examine Division 25 OARs and make changes to ensure the Department is able to protect resources and public safety.

### *Raves/Large Commercial Events*

House Bill 2453 directs the Department to adopt rules related to health and safety standards requirements for these events, and a fee schedule for processing permit applications and for monitoring and enforcement of permit requirements. The rules adopted under House Bill 2453 will supplement rules currently found in Division 25, and will allow the Department to establish clear requirements for these events if permitted on State Forest lands. Consultation has been conducted with the Department of Environmental Quality and the Oregon Health Authority, with their feedback integrated into the draft rules.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Pending Board of Forestry direction to begin rule making, next steps include:

- The Department will initiate the rulemaking process by filing necessary documents with the Secretary of State and scheduling public hearings.

- The Department will return to the Board in January with a progress report, discussing preliminary findings from public hearings, and feedback from advisory committees.
- The Department will return to the Board in March, after the public rulemaking process has concluded to present a summary of public hearings, changes based on the feedback, and to obtain approval of the final rules by the Board.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Direct the Department to begin the rulemaking process and return in January with a progress update.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- (1) Draft proposed Division 25 rules
- (2) Summary of rule changes